

4-21-2009

# UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 84, No. 47

WKU Student Affairs

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WKU Student Affairs, "UA12/2/1 College Heights Herald, Vol. 84, No. 47" (2009). *WKU Archives Records*. Paper 6746.  
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COLLEGE HEIGHTS

HERALD

Tuesday, April 21, 2009  
Volume 84, Number 47  
Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, Kentucky  
[www.wkuherald.com](http://www.wkuherald.com)



LINDSEY GREER/HERALD

# Global get-together

International weekend educates, entertains students

(Above, from left to right) **Lexington senior Amber Duncan, Cincinnati junior Melanie Phillips and Winchester sophomore Jasmine Bowie** dance the night away at the International Club Prom, which took place at the Registry Ballroom on Saturday night. All Western students were welcome to attend the prom, sponsored by the International Club.

(Right) **Oscar Pajares Ruiz from Cajamarca, Peru** plays the clarin on International Night at Downing University Center.



KALA DIAMOND/HERALD

SEE GLOBAL GET-TOGETHER, PAGE 11

## SGA plan protest, petition against tuition increase

**MARY BARCZAK**  
[news@chherald.com](mailto:news@chherald.com)

Student Government Association members are taking a stand against what they're calling back door tuition increases this week.

But some plans for the action members will take have changed.

The Board of Regents will vote on a \$30 charge for each credit hour exceeding 15 hours at its meeting Friday.

Western's current policy is to charge students who take more than 18 hours about \$300 for an extra course.

Yesterday, some SGA members told students about the charge and asked them to sign a petition against it, Administrative Vice President Reagan Gilley said.

SGA planned to have a sit-in in the Wetherby Administration Building Tuesday, but it was canceled, he said in an e-mail.

He canceled the sit-in for fear of low turn out, Gilley said in an e-mail.

Gilley said the confusion and excitement of elections may mean that some enthusiasm for activities protesting the charge has been lost.

"I think that there have been

perhaps miscommunications and misunderstandings between members of [SGA executive board], and that might have been why some things have not gotten covered," he said.

Executive Vice President Skylar Jordan said the cancelation was a tactical move.

He said SGA members are trying to focus their energy on the board.

SGA members plan on sending e-mails to President Gary Ransdell and the board on Wednesday and Thursday, Gilley said.

SGA will also have interest tables set up in Downing

University Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday, he said.

SGA will host a protest in Mass Media and Technology Hall at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, Gilley said.

"We want to increase awareness about what students can do to try and stop it," he said about the proposed charge.

SGA President-elect Kevin Smiley said that if the bill passes there's not much students can do on the university level, but they can still try and talk to the Council on Postsecondary Education and the CPE student representative about the charge and the increase in general.

### LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

On Thursday, April 16, the Herald published a story with the headline "'I won't give up,' former student struggles with homelessness."

It wasn't until Thursday evening that I became aware of a problem. Other sources close to the story had a different version of some of the information presented. A decision was made to remove the story from the Herald Web site.

The story should not have been published without further reporting. The Herald is continuing to investigate the claims that were brought to it on Thursday.

I can assure our readers that we aren't taking this situation lightly. The Herald does its best to serves its readers and intends to continue that tradition.

*Susie Laun*  
Editor-in-chief



GET **INSIDE** THE HERALD



**HOT RODS — SPORTS FRONT**

**DIVERSIONS**



**SPRING SING**  
Sororities and fraternities kick off Greek Week with annual event.  
**PAGE 7**

**OPINION**





**YOUR PAPER, YOUR VOICE**  
Editorials, commentaries, letters to the editor and comics. **PAGE 4**


**NEWS**


**NEW LEADERSHIP**  
The university Senate elected a new chair, vice chair and secretary at its meeting on Thursday. **ONLINE**


**COURT DECISION**  
Warren County Circuit Court affirmed a decision that Western isn't responsible for the injuries of a student who fell from an elevator. **PAGE 8**

**TUES. 60° / 41°** 

**WED. 66° / 43°** 

**THURS. 76° / 57°** 

**FRI. 87° / 61°** 

**SAT. 83° / 61°** 

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2

DAY

su|do|ku

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

		4					6	
2	3				6			
		8	7			9	5	
1			9	3		7		
4								6
		3		8	5			1
	6	5			2	8		
			1				7	9
	7					2		

25

Is the minimum age you have to be to drive in Manhattan, New York.

50

Is the atomic number for Tin.

75

Is a song by Big Sur.

Source: <http://www.randomfunfacts.com>

Herald

Every Tuesday and Thursday

### WHAT’S GOING ON

TODAY21

- ◆ 180 Campus Worship, 8:30 p.m., Grise Hall Auditorium
- ◆ Amazing Tones of Joy, 7 p.m., DUC 349
- ◆ Career Services info table, 10 a.m., Grise Hall lobby
- ◆ Disciples of Christ, 7 p.m., DUC 341
- ◆ Film Course, 2:45 p.m., MMTH 166
- ◆ Greek Feud, 7 p.m., DUC 224
- ◆ Hope Harbour Clothes Drive, 10 a.m., DUC 226
- ◆ Pagan Student Union 2009, 6:30 p.m., DUC 308
- ◆ ROTC Awareness, 8 a.m., DUC lobby
- ◆ SGA Student Senate Meeting, 5 p.m., DUC 305

WEDNESDAY22

- ◆ BGWSO/Choir Finale, 7:30 p.m., First Baptist Church
- ◆ Mike Armstrong comedy show, 7 p.m., Ellis Place
- ◆ Air Force ROTC, 7 p.m., DUC 230
- ◆ Anime Club, 7 p.m., MMTH 236
- ◆ CAB Movie - Role Models, 7 p.m., DUC 340
- ◆ Greek Week Events Day, 2 p.m., Guthrie Bell Tower
- ◆ Motorcycle safety, 10 a.m., DUC lobby
- ◆ Multi-tool Bike Clinic, 5 p.m., Preston Center
- ◆ Relaxation Session, 4:15 p.m., GCC 100
- ◆ Rip the Runway, 4 p.m., Garrett Ballroom

THURSDAY23

- ◆ Earth Day celebration, Fresh Food Company
- ◆ Amazing Tones of Joy Bible Study, 7 p.m., DUC 226
- ◆ Americans for Informed Democracy, 9 p.m., DUC 226
- ◆ Earth Festival, all day, DUC South Lawn
- ◆ Hope Harbour Clothes Drive, 10 a.m., DUC lobby
- ◆ Relaxation Session, noon, Garrett 100
- ◆ Revolution 91.7 2009, 5 p.m., DUC 308

The calendar runs every Tuesday.  
Send your event post request by 3 p.m. Monday to [calendar@chherald.com](mailto:calendar@chherald.com).

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CORRECTION

Due to a Herald error, a student was misidentified in a page 10 caption about Bernarda Alba on April 16. Junior Stephanie Mattos is seen helping senior Emily Cooper, not sophomore Nicole Nason, into her corset. The Herald regrets the error. The College Heights Herald corrects all confirmed errors that are brought to reporters' or editors' attention. Please call 745-6011 or 745-5044 to report a correction, or e-mail us at [editor@chherald.com](mailto:editor@chherald.com).

CRIME REPORT

Report

◆ Larry Killebrew, of the WKU Restaurant and Catering Group, reported on April 17 that a John Deere Gator utility vehicle was stolen from the loading dock behind Garrett Conference Center. The value of the theft was \$7,900.

The bunnies are Invading the Hill!

The Hunt for RED EGGS

TODAY! April 21st

Return the eggs to DUC 2nd floor Tuesday, April 21 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. or Student Publications (across from MMTH) Tuesday, April 21 - Thursday, April 23 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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ADMINISTRATION

# Number of FAFSA applications filed increases

MARIANNE HALE  
news@chherald.com

A downturn in the economy may have motivated more students to click their pens and computer mice to fill out financial aid applications this year.

The number of completed Free Applications for Federal Student Aid increased at the university, state and national levels for the first quarter of the year.

The FAFSA helps financial aid directors calculate a student's level of financial aid need, said Phil Day, president of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

The number of applications Western received increased by 14 percent this year compared

to the same time last year, according to numbers provided by Cindy Burnette, director of student financial assistance.

The U.S. Department of Education reports an increase of about 19.5 percent for the number of Kentucky applications filed in the first quarter of 2009-2010 compared to the 2008-2009 year.

The department reports an increase of about 20.8 percent for the nation during the same time span.

Burnette summed up the reason for the increasing number of applications in two words—the economy.

Day said people who have lost jobs or had their workloads reduced are heading back to school for more training and education.

“When the economy goes

south, enrollment goes north,” Day said.

Burnette said the estimated family contribution has lowered, meaning more students will be eligible for need-based financial assistance.

Day said students shouldn't worry that more people applying for financial aid will decrease the amount of federal money they get.

Forms of federal aid, such as need-based Pell Grants, are entitlements, meaning that all eligible applicants will get the aid, Day said.

Congress bases the Pell Grant program's funding on an estimated number of applicants, he said. The program gets more money if more people apply than expected.

“You're going to get your fair share,” he said.

Some state aid, however, ran out earlier this year than last year, Burnette said.

Money for Kentucky's College Access Programs Grants, which are need-based grants for Kentucky residents, ran out last month because of the increased number of applicants, she said.

Those grants went to eligible students who had their applications in by March 20, Burnette said.

She said students should continue filing FAFSAs for federal aid and in case more funding is created to support aid such as CAP Grants.

Burnette said students can fill out the application at any time, but the sooner they apply, the better.

15,743	Number of applications Western received in 2008.
17,931	Number of applications Western received in 2009.
89,127	Number of applications Kentucky received in 2008.
106,514	Number of applications Kentucky received in 2009.
5,449,774	Number of applications the United States received in 2008.
6,586,007	Number of applications the United States received in 2009.

Source: Cindy Burnette, director of student financial assistance, and U.S. Department of Education

BOWLING GREEN

# Greenwood Mall parent company files bankruptcy

CHRISTINA HOWERTON  
news@chherald.com

Greenwood Mall won't be affected by its parent company's bankruptcy filing.

General Growth Properties, Greenwood Mall's Chicago-based parent company, filed chapter 11 bankruptcy last week, according to a press release from the company.

The company filed for bankruptcy because it needs to refinance debt, according to the press release.

About 158 of 200 GGP shopping centers also filed chapter 11 bankruptcy, according to the press release.

Greenwood Mall isn't bankrupt, General Manager Heidi Olson said.

“As far as Greenwood Mall is affected, it's business as usual,” she said.

Olson said she couldn't

comment further on the financial state of Greenwood Mall.

Finance Professor Indu Chhachhi said companies file for chapter 11 bankruptcy when they don't have money to pay off debts.

Chapter 11 is the most common form of bankruptcy, Chhachhi said.

After filing, the company has protection from having to pay debt for a period of time, he said.

The company uses the time to re-negotiate debt payment with the firm that they owe, Chhachhi said.

For example, the two parties and a bankruptcy judge can decide to extend loans, decrease payments or lower interest rates, he said.

Chhachhi said companies that file chapter 11 bankruptcy usually continue normal business.

“Bankruptcy doesn't mean

companies won't function,” Chhachhi said. “Most keep functioning and come out the other end.”

He said companies such as Delta Air Lines filed for bankruptcy in the past and are now doing fine.

Customers of the malls that filed bankruptcy won't see a difference in services, according to the release.

All of GGP's malls are still in business, said Lesley Cheers, director of corporate communications for GGP, in an e-mail.

GGP also owns Florence Mall in Florence, Mall St. Matthews in Louisville and Northgate Mall in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Mall St. Matthews and Northgate Mall have filed for bankruptcy, according to the GGP Web site.



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PEOPLE  
POLL

Q: What do you think of the Hot Rods' home debut?



**Tiffany Stewart Bremen**  
senior

"I don't really follow baseball but I'm glad they won and hope they do well this season."



**Tyler Jury**  
Elizabethtown  
freshman

"I think it's awesome they won and I can't wait to get out and support them here soon."



**Nathan Eaton**  
Fairdale  
senior

"I wish I could've attended and can't wait to get out to one of the games this season."



**Jordan Carter**  
Bowling Green  
senior

"I'm glad something came to Bowling Green that gives us something to do on the weekends."

## HERALD

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## SUBMISSIONS

The Herald encourages readers to write letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. Here are a few guidelines:

1. Letters should not exceed 250 words, and commentaries should be 700-800 words.
2. Originality counts. Please don't submit plagiarized work.
3. For verification, letters and commentaries MUST include your name, phone number, home town and classification or title.
4. Letters may not run in every edition due to space.
5. The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald does NOT print libelous submissions.

## DISCLAIMER

**The opinions expressed in this newspaper DO NOT reflect those of Western's employees or of its administration.**

## OPINION

## EDITORIAL

## Every little bit helps

Students should practice Earth Day procedures on a daily basis

The issue: Millions of Americans will celebrate Earth Day on April 22 by exploring ways they can conserve energy and help protect the environment.

Our view: The Herald encourages everyone to practice responsible energy conservation and recycling habits as a way of life instead of just on a designated day.

It's time for a trip down Memory Lane.

Back before the days of exams, puberty and responsibility in general, many students spent their Saturday mornings glued to the deluge of cartoons on television.

One of the more classic offerings was the Captain Planet cartoon.

The show featured the adventures of the titular blue-skinned hero and his gang of "Planeteers" as they sought to defeat evildoers bent on environmental destruction.

The cartoon featured public services announcements that detailed ecological dilemmas, and Captain Planet often urged viewers to do their part in protecting the planet.

Even though his fans are all grown up now, there's no doubt Captain Planet would still stress to them the importance of making a difference in their daily routines.

The Herald wholeheartedly agrees.

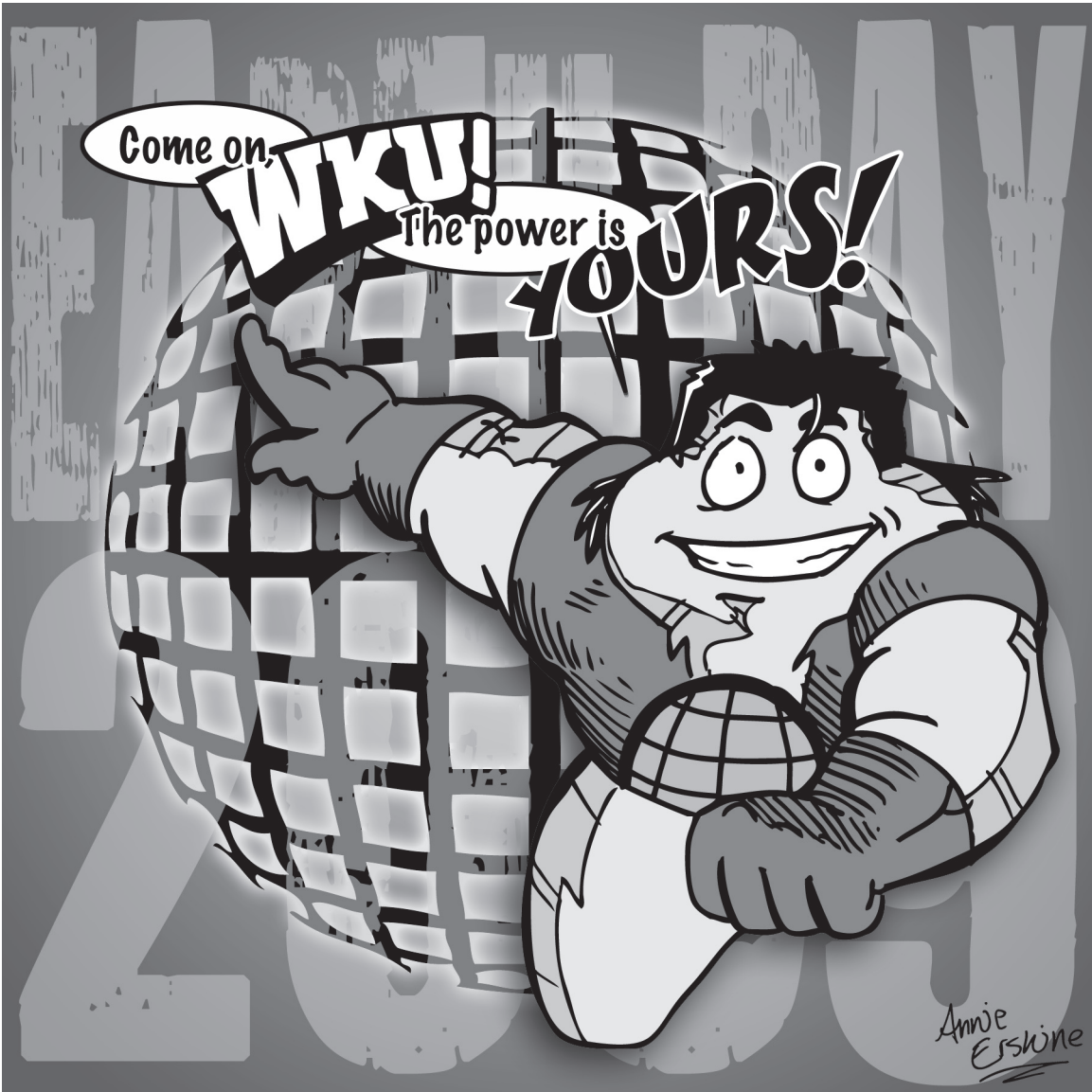
One of the more simple ways to participate is responsible recycling.

For instance, students have a bevy of ways they can recycle their aluminum cans.

Not only can they take their cans to Southern Recycling for cash back, they can also dispose of them in the giant recycling bin behind the Supply Services building, located across from the baseball field.

Another important step is to dispose of cigarette butts in ashtrays and not on the ground. After all, those butts aren't biodegradable and often end up in storm drains.

Students can also buy reusable bags at the grocery store or simply bring their own bag when they go shopping.



A simple step such as swapping out old light bulbs for more energy-efficient ones can also make a difference and help students save money on their energy bills.

Turning the water heater to a lower setting is an extremely effective way to save some wasted energy.

So is opening the doors during mild weather to help save on air conditioning costs.

Another step that often goes overlooked is the proper disposal of old batteries.

Instead of tossing them in the trash can, students should take their used batteries to designated recy-

cling containers to help ensure they don't end up in landfills.

Finally, students can help out by unplugging their unused appliances and encouraging their friends to do the same.

By helping to reduce usage and cut energy costs, students will see that their efforts make environmental and economic sense.

Captain Planet would be proud.

*This editorial represents the majority opinion of the Herald's 10-member editorial board.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## The importance of free speech

The campus of a university should be viewed not simply as a place to get a degree but also as a place to exchange ideas and beliefs. Universities like to pride themselves as avenues of free speech and freedom of expression. Even when faced with criticism, universities often defy their critics and press forward with their belief to host one guest speaker or another. But does the view of free speech exclude some conservative viewpoints? In October 2006, Jim Gilchrist, the founder of the Minuteman Project, was chased off the stage at Columbia University by angry students. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was invited to speak at Columbia University in September 2007. This brought much criticism to the university, but no major incidents were reported. The latest example happened just last week at the University of North Carolina where former U.S. congressman Tom Tancredo began to deliver an anti-illegal immigrant speech. Several students within the crowd began shouting profanity at

the congressman and even broke a window. At this point, campus police stopped the event and escorted Mr. Tancredo from the room. For some time, incidents such as these caused me to ask a question. Where does Western stand on free speech? Would someone with an opposing viewpoint to the norm in a particular venue be allowed to express his or her views? What if those viewpoints were expressed in a rather crude manner? In answering that question, I found myself engaging in various debates on WKU Voice. I wanted to know if anyone on that forum had limits to what they considered free speech. Western has many things to pride itself with. The opportunity for free speech is truly one of them. The debates reached a point that someone posted instructions on a way to block my statements. This quickly began a frenzy of activity, and those who were once my adversaries quickly became my defenders. I believe the campus community should be proud to have people who will defend the rights even of those of whom they disagree. These individuals should

be applauded as true champions of free speech, and I thank each of them for their unknowing participation in my experiment. Individually, each of us has a voice and opportunity to express ourselves and our viewpoints. While many are often intimidated by what others may think, it is important that our views are shared and debated as well. In closing, I offer this quote from a news commentator who is loved by some and hated by others — Mr. Bill O'Reilly. "What say you?"

**Jason Abston**  
Sophomore  
Edmonton

## Kudos on campus energy policy

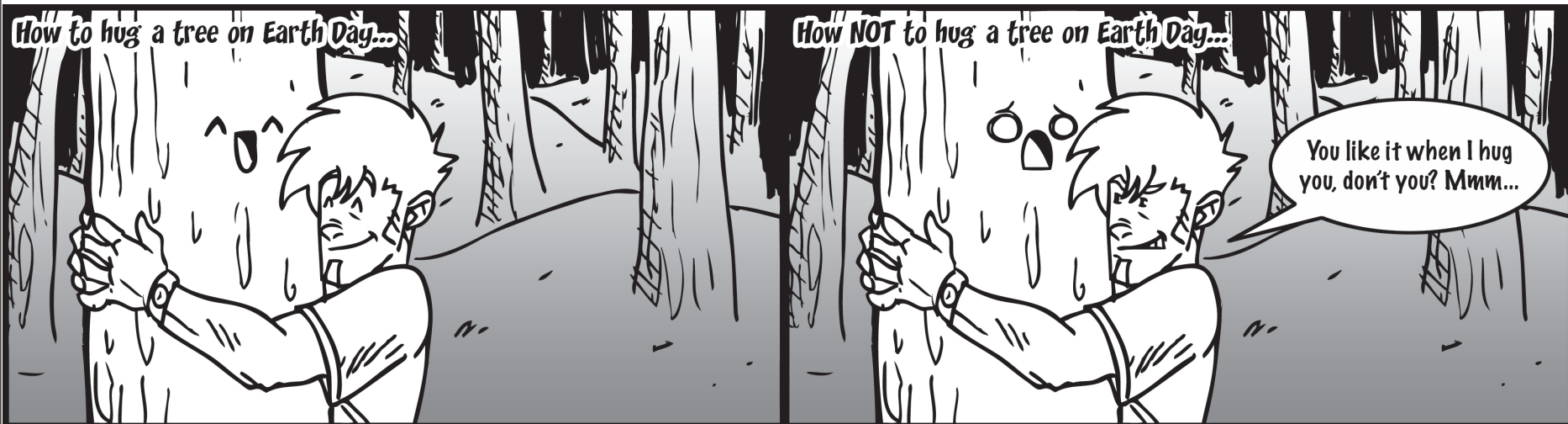
I was greatly pleased to read Dr. Ransdell's e-mail and new energy policy last month. I have always felt that the spirit of progress embodied in Centennial Mall was very real, and Dr. Ransdell proved it with his energy policy. The fact of the matter is that we are having drastic effects on our environment, particularly how we use energy. Even

if one somehow still denies the scientific consensus on human caused climate change, we are still polluting our air and water with dirty fuels. We are destroying communities by blowing up their mountains to get coal, pumping carcinogenic fumes in communities around coal-fired power plants or flooding them with toxic fly ash. The president's bold move to cut down our energy use does more than save money; it saves lives. Yet there is always room for more. The drastic energy cutbacks proposed in the energy policy must be accompanied by supplementing the remaining energy use with clean and renewable fuels. As Gandhi said, "We must be the change we wish to see in the world." The old fossil fuel economy is dying, and I am confident that our empowered student body and progressive administration will bring us into a cleaner tomorrow together. Come with us, Dr. Ransdell, and dream.

**Greg Capillo**  
Junior  
Lexington

Annie's  
OUTLOOK

A cartoon strip by Annie Erskine





↑

Back Door Tuition

INCREASES



Don't let the Board of Regents up the cost of

**YOUR EDUCATION!**

The CPE has set tuition increases at 4% due to the economic crisis. Now, the Board of Regents is trying to implement a back door tuition increase. What they want to do is add \$30 for every credit hour over 15 that you take.

**SO IF YOU TAKE 18 HOURS, YOU WILL BE PAYING AN EXTRA \$90!**

**Join SGA on April 24th outside their Regents meeting to let them know how you feel about Back Door Tuition Increases.**

**PROTEST!**

**PROTEST!**

**PROTEST!**

**APRIL 24**

**APRIL 24**

**APRIL 24**



ACADEMICS

Master’s program offers study abroad experience

MARIANNE HALE  
news@chherald.com

Courey McCubbin didn’t study abroad as an undergraduate student. So when she heard about a graduate program that could take her abroad, she thought “sign me up.”

McCubbin, a graduate student from Franklin, is one of 12 Trilateral MBA students studying at Western this semester for master’s degrees in business administration.

Through the Trilateral MBA program, students take classes full-time at Western and universities in Canada and Mexico, said Bob Hatfield, Western’s executive faculty coordinator of MBA programs.

Students from Western and universities in Canada and Mexico participate in the program. Each semester they all study in one of the three countries, he said.

They studied at Université de Moncton in Canada last semester. They’ll head to

Mexico to finish their degrees at the Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro this summer, McCubbin said.

The soft deadline for submitting applications for next year’s program was April 15, but Hatfield said he won’t look at the applications until May 15, so students have until then to apply.

Students pay the price of tuition for their home school each semester, he said.

McCubbin is the only Western student participating in the program for the 2008-2009 year. But Hatfield said he expects more students to join for next year’s program.

All the classes are taught in English, which helped Genevieve Tetreault make the decision to participate in the program.

Tetreault, a graduate student from Montreal, said she wanted to learn English, and the program has helped her reach that goal. Tetreault is a native French speaker.

“I think in business it’s real-

ly, really important,” she said of learning other languages.

Hatfield said the program offers an easy and inexpensive way to have an international education.

“Whether we face it or not, we’re really involved in a global economy,” he said.

Julie Allain, a student from Bouctouche, Canada, said it usually takes about two years to get an MBA in Canada.

Hatfield said most schools offer programs for students to get MBAs in either 18 or 24 months.

Students in full-time programs, such as the Trilateral program, take more hours and earn degrees in less time than students in part-time programs, he said.

Taking 12 hours in graduate work is like taking 18 or 21 hours in undergraduate work, Hatfield said.

“This isn’t a cakewalk,” he said.

Students can find the Trilateral MBA application at [www.wku.edu/mba](http://www.wku.edu/mba), he said.

ACADEMICS

Students learn from professor-authored texts

MANDY SIMPSON  
news@chherald.com

Jessica Cleveland, a junior from Cross Plains, Tenn., noticed something unusual about her linguistics textbook at the beginning of the semester. Her professor’s name appeared on the cover.

“At first, I wasn’t sure about what to expect,” she said in an e-mail. “After all, I had never had a professor who came complete with their own curriculum.”

Western has no policy preventing teachers from requiring books they’ve written, and several teachers have done so, Provost Barbara Burch said. But some faculty and students disagree with the practice.

Bookstore Department Manager Forrest Halford said he’s unsure how many teachers require students to buy teacher-written books, but about 70 teachers require course packs, which are custom publications including teacher-written material.

Cleveland’s teacher, Assistant English Professor Elizabeth Winkler, wrote a textbook after becoming frustrated with overly-technical literature that was ineffective for non-linguistic majors, she said.

“I needed something that was much shorter, much less expensive and had less theory and more practice,” Winkler said.

Winkler worked to control the price of the book by limiting the number of pages and color pictures. Her book sells for \$18 to \$20 new, and she said she encourages students to buy it used online for about \$10.

Winkler said there’s a perception that teachers are getting rich off their textbooks, but she only makes 4 percent of her book’s net profits.

“I don’t have a need to make money off of my own students,” she said.

Winkler said the professional

recognition she received was a larger incentive than money to write a book.

The impression that teachers become wealthy from books sales is as dangerous as the possibility that teachers’ authorship influences their decisions about which books to use in class, Associate Journalism Professor Harry Allen said.

“It gives the perception that teachers may not choose the best textbook, because they choose a textbook that gets them money,” he said. “It’s a classic conflict of interest.”

Allen said teachers who choose to use their own textbook should put royalties from student purchases into a general scholarship fund or other charitable account.

Winkler keeps the royalties from her book sales, but Cleveland said in an e-mail she was pleased with Winkler’s decision.

“After meeting Dr. Winkler and reading through her book this semester, I have decided that it would be great if all of my professors used their own book,” she said in an e-mail.

Bowling Green sophomore Lauren Lowe said she would benefit from having teachers who require their own textbooks because teachers often stray from required texts.

“It’s much better than having a bunch of information that’s different from what you’re going to learn anyway,” she said.

English Assistant Professor Tom Hunley is currently writing his own instructional poetry-writing book, which he’ll use in classes.

Like Winkler, the motivation behind Hunley’s book came

from years of using books with ineffective writing exercises, he said.

“It doesn’t get into the book if it hasn’t been proven that a student can write a great poem doing it,” he said.

Nortonville senior Sarah Gamblin said Hunley’s book-writing abilities help show off his credentials.

“A lot of students think ‘Oh, who’s this guy to tell me how to write?’” she said. “But if a publisher takes them seriously, maybe the students should too.”

But some students disagree with the practice of teachers using their own books in courses.

Nashville senior P.J. Schenkel said one of his current teachers required students to buy his book.

“That’s totally wrong,” he said. “I feel like I’ve paid enough money for classes here that, if a teacher wrote their own book, they can provide it for me.”

Cave City freshman Kyle Bunnell said he understands the professional and monetary incentive teachers have to require their own books but worries the books only present one view.

“Your horizons on issues are narrowed by the teacher’s own selfishness,” he said.

Allen said he would like to see Western explore policies to regulate how teachers use royalties obtained from requiring students to purchase their books.

But he said he would rather have no policy than one restricting teachers’ academic freedom to choose books best suited for classes.

“At first, I wasn’t sure about what to expect. After all, I had never had a professor who came complete with their own curriculum.”

— Jessica Cleveland  
Cross Plains, Tenn., junior

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GREEK LIFE

# Spring Sing brings together campus Greeks

ANGELA OLIVER  
diversions@chherald.com

A group of men in white button-down shirts, jeans and black suspenders were scattered around the stage in Diddle Arena Sunday evening. For more than three weeks, the men of Phi Delta Theta practiced their routine for Spring Sing.

The lights were off. Only a spotlight behind the stage illuminated the men as they posed and waited patiently. The audience was silent as they anticipated the fraternity's first move. The men were eager and ready. But their music was not.

"Dude, the CD won't read," one member said from the floor.

"What? Are you serious?" the choreographer responded as he ran off stage to try to resolve the problem.

The audience cheered and applauded as the Phi Dels removed their props and left the stage.

Luckily, their music was fixed and they performed after intermission.

"It was uncomfortable at first, but it was encouraging when the crowd started clapping for us," Josh Petro said.

Petro, a freshman from Brentwood, Tenn., said he was nervous about his first Spring Sing performance. But his fraternity brothers assured him.

"One of our guys is a dancer — we have outstanding choreography," Petro said. "We've come a long way, and I can't promise we will win, but we're sure gonna try!"

Spring Sing, the Greek Week kick-off event, is an annual dance and song competition of the Panhellenic Association and Interfraternity Council organizations. This year's theme was Alphabet Soup. Each group got their letter before Spring Break.

Parents watched proudly, video cameras and posters in hand.

"They did a great job," William Spaulding said gleaming.

His son, Springfield sophomore William Spaulding, is a member of FarmHouse. This was his second performance.

Though he praised the precision of the routine, Spaulding said his son's involvement was more important than winning.

"I'm absolutely proud of him," he said. "This is his family now — they study together, have fun together. It keeps him from getting homesick. I trust that they always have his back."

Sorority women screamed, their colorful T-shirts adorned with Greek letters peppered throughout the arena seats.

The women of Alpha Delta Pi chanted in unison as their sisters took the stage.

"... ADPi for me!"

Enlarged soup cans with Alpha Delta Pi and the letter "E" provided the backdrop. With about 10 costume changes, two live singers and glittering hand-painted props, the ADPis moved the crowd with songs from Eurhythmics to En Vogue.

"We hit it, and I'm really proud of my sisters," Owensboro sophomore Jessica Paulsen said.

Paulsen choreographed the dance and said the dance and cheerleading experience of many ADPi members allowed her to make the dance more intricate.

The winners of Spring Sing and all other Greek Week events will be announced at a convocation this Sunday. And each team looks forward to it.

"Winning is fun. The events are fun, but it's all about building sisterhood," Paulsen said.



LINDSEY GREER/HERALD

(Top) Kappa Delta sorority members, Versailles junior Amanda Duckworth, left, Hodgenville junior Leah Flanders, Bowling Green junior Lindsey Houchin and Dawson Springs sophomore Rebecca Gogel keep the singing going as they sit on the edge of the stage to change outfits during their Spring Sing performance. The theme for Spring Sing 2009 was "Alphabet Soup."

(Above right) Chicago senior Peter McNeilly slides on top of five other Sigma Nu members to the music of Love Train by The O' Jays. Sigma Nu performed the letter "O" during Greek Week's Spring Sing show.

(Above left) Sigma Kappa's Angie Landon, a sophomore from Clarksville, Tenn., Louisville sophomore Lauren Pope and Irvington junior Gibby Jones participate in Spring Sing to kick off Greek Week 2009. Other events taking place during the week include the blood drive, Greek Feud and Tug.

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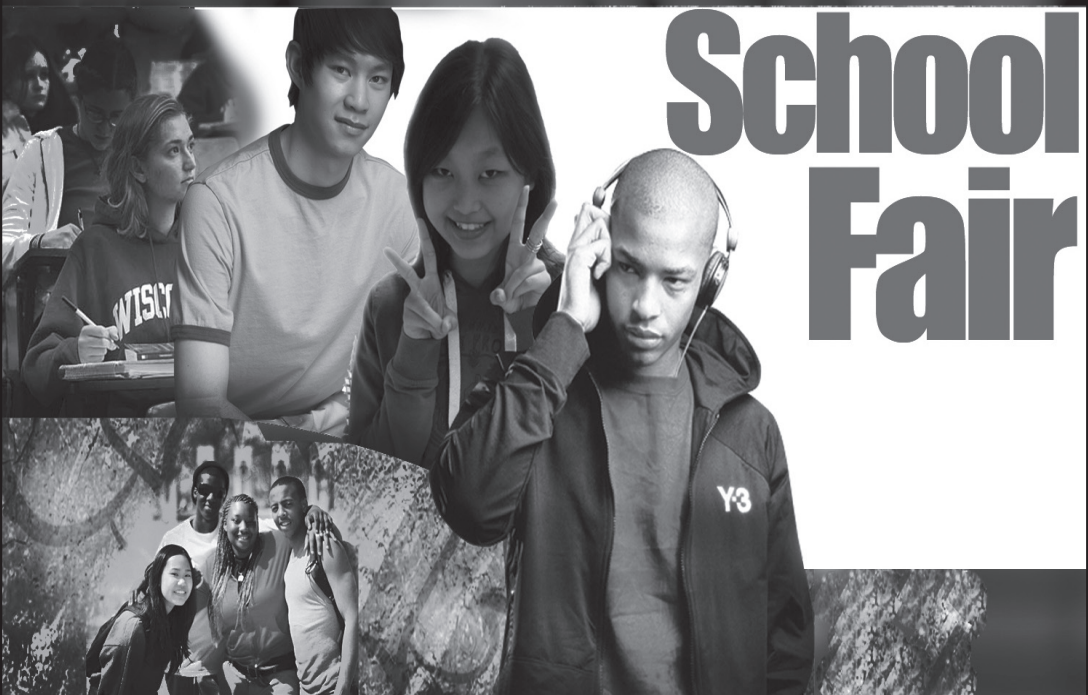



Louisville junior Roseline Twagiramariya is surrounded by photos of her family, which were taken during the time they spent in Rwanda before the civil war there. Twagiramariya escaped the conflict in Rwanda in 1994 to Congo with her family.



• • • • •

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## WHAT’S YOUR STORY?

# Student survives Civil war in Rwanda

ANGELA OLIVER  
diversions@chherald.com

As a child, Louisville junior Roseline Twagiramariya was calm and constantly smiling. But for a few years of her young life, that ever-present happiness was ripped away by war in her native country, Rwanda.

“I was young, but I knew that at any time, someone could kill me if they didn’t like my ethnicity,” she said.

When Twagiramariya was six, she said she, her mother and her infant sister hid in her father’s office on a high school campus for three days.

“At night, we could hear the screams of people dying,” she said. “I can’t describe the feeling of knowing it could have easily been us.”

Twagiramariya remembers her prayers; she promised to do her homework and listen to her parents if God kept them safe.

“There was nothing to smile about,” she said.

While they waited until it was safer to leave, her father, along with other able-bodied men, patrolled the area.

She said that at 10:30 one morning, as her father and his best friend patrolled, enemies invaded the campus area with a shoot-out. He ran one way, his friend ran another. And though he saw his friend’s body on the ground, he didn’t have time to grieve; he had to save himself.

“For three days, I thought my father was dead,” Twagiramariya said. “He thought we were, too.”

She said another patrolman told him no one inside the school survived. But they soon reunited and moved to Congo, in 1994, later to Senegal and to the U.S. in September 1998.

“I thought coming here would be paradise,” she said.

Twagiramariya wasn’t the average fifth grader. She spoke Kinyarwanda, Kirundi, Wolof and French and was ahead in her math and science classes. In a few months, by watching movies with English subtitles and listening closely to her classmates, she learned the language.

“It was hard at first,” she said. “I didn’t look or speak the same. Kids would ask ignorant questions, but they didn’t know

any better.”

Twagiramariya, a public relations and sociology double-major, plans to work abroad for nonprofit organizations and world causes.

“I feel like people turned their backs on my country,” she said. “There wasn’t enough attention and I want to make sure that doesn’t happen again.”

Though she appreciates her past for making her stronger and more aware, she said she may never go back to Rwanda.

“My mind is still stuck in ‘94. That’s all I know.”

She is hesitant to reveal whether she is of Tutsi, Hutu or Twa heritage — the groups involved in the genocide.

“I stopped telling people years ago because that’s why the war reached such a point,” she said. “We’re all Rwandan and the moment people start thinking that way, we will never have civil war.”

On the Dean’s List since she came to Western, she’s focused on being successful on her own terms. With the pain behind her and her family beside her, she can smile again.

### ► NEWS BRIEF

**Circuit Court upholds ruling in Ledbetter Case**

The Warren County Circuit Court affirmed a Board of Claims ruling in Western’s favor last week.

The board ruled last year that Western wasn’t responsible for injuries former student Patrick Ledbetter had after falling from an elevator in Cherry Hall while in his wheelchair, said Deborah Wilkins, chief of staff and general counsel.

Ledbetter appealed the board’s ruling, leaving the court to decide whether the board had sufficient evidence to make its ruling, she said.

Now, Ledbetter can file an appeal with the Kentucky Court of Appeals, Wilkins said.

Ledbetter’s attorney Rick Hughes said he

didn’t know if his client planned to file an appeal, but he sent Ledbetter a copy of the court’s judgment.

“I’m sure he’ll be disappointed,” Hughes said.

He said he didn’t want to say more about the case until he hears from his client.

The Herald was unable to reach Ledbetter for comment.

Ledbetter fell from the elevator in 2005, Wilkins said. He filed a claim against Western in 2006.

She said she didn’t know if there have been problems with the elevator since, but it has continually passed state inspections.

—Marianne Hale

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FACILITIES

# Students consider benefits of campus art

TABITHA WAGGONER  
diversions@chherald.com

Nashville freshmen Tate Goins and Russ Pappas had different ideas on the monetary value of the Centennial statue on the mall by the Downing University Center.

“Two thousand dollars,” Goins guessed, while Pappas estimated the red statue at \$15,000. “Centennial,” sculpted by Gino Miles and unveiled in 2006, cost Western \$42,000, according to information collected by Deborah Wilkins, the chief of staff and general counsel.

All of the campus art was paid off last year, and none has been purchased since then, President Gary Ransdell said.

Pappas said he would’ve liked to see more parking spaces instead of a statue.

“I don’t think it’s worth it,” he said.

“I really think it’s silly, especially since we’re going to be charged an extra \$30 a credit hour next semester,” Goins said.

“I love it,” said Jacqui Lubbers, a part-time faculty member who teaches weaving and art appreciation. “I think any art is better than no art at all.”

Lubbers said the bronze sculpture behind Gordon Wilson Hall, “Trust,” is her favorite.

Western has a \$330 million budget, a third of which comes from tuition. Faculty and staff salaries use \$151 million of the budget, Ransdell said. About \$338,000 has been spent on some campus artwork. A separate \$262,400 was donated privately and spent on statues such as Diddle and Guthrie.

Funds budgeted in previous years that remain unspent become carry-forward funding, Chief Financial Officer Jim Cummings said.

The surplus funds from that fiscal year are used however a particular department chooses, while general institution funding isn’t charged to a specific budget or department, Cummings said.

Lubbers said the pieces would increase in monetary value. Students don’t complain about the Cherry statue, but they tend to be afraid of what they’re not used to, she explained.

“But if they don’t understand it [they say], ‘What is it supposed to be? A bottle opener or a vagina?’”

At a picnic table outside the fine arts center, Nashville senior Donnie Faires, an art/graphic design major, sat smoking a pipe.

“Aesthetically, I don’t like all of them, but I do appreciate them,” Faires said of the campus art. “I value all art.”



Though many students like the art, some think it would mean more if it were homegrown.

“I think statues and art on campus is fine as long as it’s created by the art department,” said Bate Shop employee and Ekron junior Anthony Cole.

However, the only campus art created by a Western alumnus are the Diddle and Guthrie statues.

“That’s why I came to Western, because it looks tons better than Eastern,” Cole said chuckling.

Henderson freshman Felix Perrone stopped and looked at “Centennial” as he walked down the Hill.

“Anything at all would have been better than that,” he said.

At Java City in DUC, Louisville juniors Nic Brent and Carvez Gibbs, along with Louisville sophomore Marcus Wester, agreed.

“Give me \$100,000, and I’ll make you something,” Gibbs quipped.

Brent said that as long as the campus art doesn’t come out of tuition money, he wouldn’t have a problem with it. Wester said “so much more could have been done” with the money allotted for campus art.

“Keep in mind that art appreciation is a part of our educational experience at WKU,” Ransdell said. “Many across campus would suggest a piece of outdoor art is as important to our educational experience as a computer or a microscope.”

Shelbyville senior Justin Turner compared the abundance of campus art to the new football field.

“I view it just the same — it looks nice, but I’d rather pay cheaper tuition.”

TOP 5 most expensive sculptures

1. Four Seasons by Aristide Sartorio  
**\$80,000**
2. Robert Guthrie by Rus Faxon  
**\$78,500**
3. E.A. Diddle by Rus Faxon  
**\$73,900**
4. Centennial by Gino Miles  
**\$42,000**
5. Trust by Kendra Fleischman  
**\$41,400**

Source: Deborah Wilkins, Chief of Staff/General Counsel

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# Global get-together

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE



(Left) **Shadana Dickerson** performs the Jingle Dress Dance during the International Festival at the Downing University Center. The dance is part of the Native American tribe Lakota’s culture.

(Below) **Crystal and Yasar Kaya** perform an Argentinean tango dance during the International Festival at Downing University Center.



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JACOB HILL/HERALD

The Western defense tries to stop senior quarter back Brandon Smith as he runs the ball during practice Saturday. Western's football team ran its defensive line against its offense in a practice scrimmage. Players on the sidelines cheered for their "teams" as they faced off against teammates.

## DEPTH

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS PAGE

"We took some steps in the right direction with fewer mental mistakes," Elson said. "The main thing is we want to keep improving on those little things so we can't lose sight of the fundamentals that we started day one with."

Senior wide receiver Jake Gaebler said that the team improved a lot of its mistakes since its first scrimmage but still needed to work on some kinks in the offense.

"We were better today, but I still think we made some mistakes, some penalties like jumping offsides," Gaebler said.

Western will have two more practices this week and will conclude spring practices with its annual Red/White scrimmage at 6 p.m. Saturday at Smith Stadium.

## BENEFIT

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS PAGE

Tucker said he feels that on special-event nights, such as the "Thirsty Thursday" and "Legends Game" nights, more people will show up, but there will always be the faithful fans who show up every chance they get.

The night got started by 30-plus first pitches, followed by the introduction of the Hot Rods starting line-up being driven from an opening in the left field wall to home plate.

Western wasn't just represented in the crowd, however. A handful of former Western students are also employees of the Hot Rods.

Alumni have jobs in every sector of the organization. Leslie Sanderfur, a Bowling Green native, Western graduate and an account manager for the Hot Rods, spent most of her time during the game running around the stadium trying to get people lined up for promotions during the game.

"I absolutely loved it, even though I looked like a crazy-mad woman," Sanderfur said about the hectic opening day.

Being from Bowling Green, Sanderfur knows more than most about what there is to do during the summer months, and admits it's not much.

"(The addition of the Hot Rods) is the perfect fit," Sanderfur said, "because most of Western's sports kind of end, and so it's perfect, and when (the Hot Rods') season ends Western's sports start back."

The home crowd cheered on the many different firsts of the night: first pitch, first hit, first three-and-out, etc.

The first run came in the second inning when Hot Rods outfielder Jason Corder singled to right field and drove in catcher Michael McCormick. The Hot Rods went on to score twice more in the second inning to take a 3-0 lead early, eventually winning 8-4.

The Hot Rods are in action this week, starting a four-game series against West Virginia at 6:35 p.m. tonight.

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## DONATION

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS PAGE

He said Boman has "done a great job" with the KAP.

In recognition of National Autism Awareness Day, SAE, clad in khaki shorts and matching SAE shirts, presented the oversized check to Boman during the seventh inning stretch.

Boman had a huge smile on her face as she accepted the gift from the mass of young men.

"We're very excited about students stepping forward and helping KAP," she said. The money will be used to help fund different aspects of the program.

Boman said she hadn't been expecting the sum. "It was very much a surprise," she laughed.

For more information on supporting KAP e-mail [kellyautismprogram@wku.edu](mailto:kellyautismprogram@wku.edu).

## REVIEWS

CONTINUED FROM SPORTS PAGE

Malek said he usually sets up his hot-dog stand in the late night hours outside of bars in the square, but the Hot Rods gave his cart a more conventional venue.

He said he hopes the ballpark will revitalize downtown Bowling Green by offering an incentive for residents to spend time and money there, he said, turning his head to sell another all-beef dog.

Inside the unfinished warehouse where lines of people purchased last-minute tickets, City Commissioner Bruce Wilkerson picked up his own.

"I'm kind of at a loss for words," he said watching the steady stream of fans entering the stadium.

Wilkerson said he hopes the excitement continues for the other home games this season, he said.

"Seventy games is a lot," Wilkerson said.


Although he stood in line sporting a festive hat with two drinking cups and straws attached, Andrew Lawrence, 13, wasn't smiling when he entered the stadium.

He said he doubted opening-day success would continue throughout the season because of competition from the AAA Nashville Sounds team only an hour away.

A senior from Kansas City, Mo., Jacob Schaefer watched crowds fill stands from his unconventional cheap seat across the street — a tree branch.

"I didn't have any cash," Schaefer called from about 15 feet above the ground. "I read books when I was a kid about people climbing trees in Chicago and New York to watch games, so I thought I'd give it a try."

Schaefer settled onto his perch just in time to see the Hot Rods' first pitch.



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# 2008 - 2009

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SOFTBALL

Sophomore outfielder Elizabeth Ferrell slides into home plate during the bottom of the sixth inning of Western's double header against the University of North Texas Saturday afternoon. Though Ferrell was called "out" after the play, Western swept the series against North Texas 2-0, bringing the Hilltoppers' record to 10-5 in Sun Belt Conference play.



LUKE SHARRETT/HERALD

## Lady Toppers win North Texas series

**RANDALL REARDEN**  
sports@chherald.com

Senior second baseman Terri Ellingsworth applied what she had practiced in situational hitting to two pitches that left the WKU Softball Complex, as Ellingsworth hit home runs twice in Saturday's double header against North Texas.

The Lady Toppers picked up a Sun Belt Conference series win, winning game one 6-4 and falling in game two 11-6. Western also beat North Texas 4-1 on Friday night.

"I was really excited about the first one," Ellingsworth said. "I hit it to right field, and I never hit it to right field. You feel it whenever you hit it, and you know it's going to be out. It's a great feeling."

Ellingsworth led the Lady Toppers in game two offensively going 3-3, with two home runs and five RBIs, and also drew a walk.

Coach Tyra Perry said she was pleased with the offense despite losing the third game of the series.

"I was proud of them," Perry

said. "I think they are showing that they want it. We have been working a lot on our hitting. I have basically been saying that every week."

The Lady Toppers have had some success with getting runners on base this season, and their on-base percentage is .316.

Western was forced to overcome four defensive errors in game two on Saturday as well as a four-run deficit.

The Lady Toppers would eventually tie the game at six after Ellingsworth hit her second home run of the game, driving in three runs.

But in the top of the seventh inning, senior pitcher Jennifer Kempf gave up five runs, which was too much for Western to recover from as they dropped the game 11-6.

"I'm really proud of the team for coming back and fighting," Kempf said. "I can't place blame on anything else. It's one of those things where I could have made better pitches, and it's one of those days that you have to shake off."

In the first game Saturday,

Western's hitting powered the team to overcome North Texas. The Lady Toppers scored the first run in the game along with three more in the fifth inning. After North Texas also posted a four-run inning, Western would score two runs in the bottom of the sixth and hold on for a 6-4 win.

With the win, senior pitcher Ryan Rogge picked up her twentieth win of the season. Rogge has already posted three more wins than last season with 11 more games to play this season before the Lady Toppers head to Denton, Texas for the Sun Belt Conference Tournament.

Rogge said that she had hoped for the success she has had this season.

"I know that I've put in a lot of work, so I am glad I got here," Rogge said. "But I didn't know what this season was going to hold until it started."

Western's softball team will return to the field when it hosts Florida Atlantic in a double-header at 5 p.m. Wednesday at the WKU Softball Complex.

BASEBALL

## Transfers make impact in win over Arkansas State

**SARAH HYMAN**  
sports@chherald.com

No, Arkansas State didn't hide the home plate from the Toppers last weekend.

Though Western (27-11, 14-4 Sun Belt Conference) won the three-game series, the SBC's top offensive team only combined to score 14 runs.

Western is batting .350, tied with two teams for 10th in the NCAA, but only managed 19 hits in 105 at-bats during the series.

Senior shortstop Terrence Dayleg said that the team's approach at the plate has changed.

"We pitched well enough to win all three games, but our (offensive) approach wasn't really the same as it has been all year," Dayleg said. "We've put up big numbers all year, but our approach hasn't been the same. We weren't as aggressive."

Against Arkansas State, the Toppers had to rely on their pitching staff, which is 14-2 in weekend games this season.

In Sunday's 3-0 win, junior pitcher Shane Cameron allowed seven hits but held the Indians scoreless through

seven innings, striking out six.

"It's fun as a pitcher to be able to come in and keep the other team shut down," Cameron said. "You'd like to have lots of run support, but I know no matter what I can go in there and throw strikes and get my outs."

Cameron, in his first year with the Toppers after two seasons at Connors State College, has struck out 40 batters in 47 innings pitched.

"He's very competitive, very focused, hates to lose," pitching coach Matt Myers said. "Hates to get beat, hates to give up a hit, believes his stuff is better than all the hitters, and I think those are all the intangibles you need to be successful in this game."

Dayleg, who transferred from Seminole State College in 2007, said that though junior college baseball isn't as fast-paced or organized as NCAA Division I, his experience prepared him to contribute for the Toppers.

"It's just two completely different games of baseball," he said. "But junior college players usually tend to face better pitching than you usually would in high school,

and they're older, so I think experience plays a huge role."

Myers said that Western's junior college players, including Cameron, Dayleg, senior right fielder Chad Cregar and senior pitcher/catcher J.B. Paxson, were brought in to fill "special needs" on the team.

"Those guys were able to get the change done quickly," Myers said. "When you've got a good team, and then you add in a Chad Cregar or a Shane Cameron, who adds right in right away, those guys help you maintain your course of direction."

The Toppers will host Eastern Kentucky in a doubleheader beginning at 3 p.m. tomorrow.

The teams last met in Richmond on April 18, when Colonels sophomore third baseman Jayson Langfels hit a two-run home run in the bottom of the ninth inning for a walk-off 8-7 win.

"We owe them a little bit of revenge from the last time we faced them," Dayleg said. "We're going to want to win very bad, so I think we're going to go up there with just a total different approach."

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# SPORTS

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EMILY FOX/HERALD

**Fans gather** in the seats facing third base and in some cases, encounter standing room only. Pleasant weather contributed to the large attendance at the Hot Rods’ first game, where tickets sold out within two hours.

# Hot Rods hit the ballpark

## Students, alumni benefit from team

**RYAN CAREY**  
sports@chherald.com

After months of anticipation, professional baseball made its debut in Bowling Green on Friday night. About 6,886 fans walked into a nearly complete stadium last Friday night, and got what most of them had hoped for: a win. Hudson junior J.D. Tucker and Leitchfield sophomore Hannah Vincent bought standing-room-only tickets and enjoyed the game from the grass area along the first base line and the Home Run Grill area. Tucker had worked on a class project where he went over the layout of the stadium before it was constructed and said that it looked pretty much the way he had thought it would. “It’s about what I expected,” Tucker said. “For a smaller town, smaller team, it’s good.” A wide range of fans were in attendance. Every age group was represented, from babies and the elderly to Western students and teachers alike, including President Gary Ransdell. The opener was sold out, although there were a few unoccupied seats, and plenty of season tickets have been purchased, but the question remains — will the Hot Rods be able to hold onto the public’s short attention span and keep the stadium filled? Both Tucker and Vincent think there will plenty of opportunities for the Bowling Green Ballpark to be filled. “I don’t think that the crowds will be as big,” Vincent said, “but I think they’ll get a pretty decent crowd during the summer when there’s nothing else to do.”

SEE **BENEFIT**, PAGE 12



LUKE SHARRETT/HERALD

**Hot Rods players watch** as more than 20 sponsoring groups helped throw out the first pitches of opening night on Friday at the Bowling Green Ballpark.

## Scene in, outside stadium gets good reviews

**MANDY SIMPSON**  
news@chherald.com

A neon-green and black tour bus sat boisterously in Circus Square Park Friday. Two men in matching uniforms paced in front, pleading for members of the passing crowd to enter to win free tickets to a Louisville Bats baseball game. Fewer than five people obliged. For the first time ever, Bowling Green residents had their own team to root for — the Hot Rods. Ticket-holders, some enthusiastic about the opener and some skeptical about the long-term success of the team, trekked from parking lots scattered around downtown to the new baseball stadium.

Cars lined up eight-deep in the streets beside the Circus Square Park gravel lot an hour before the opening pitch. Regina Vincent, 37, said she didn’t mind making the two-block ballpark pilgrimage with her three sons still dressed in their clothes from baseball practice. “We’ve always been into pro-baseball, and now we have it out our back door,” she said. Rick Malek, 34, hit fans walking from lots on the East side with a familiar offer before they entered the park. “Hot dogs. Come and get it,” he yelled with a Yankee twang.

SEE **REVIEWS**, PAGE 12

## Autism program receives donation

**TABITHA WAGGONER**  
diversions@chherald.com

Though the Bowling Green Hot Rods lost Saturday, Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity hit the ball out of the park, winning a different game for a different cause. Bowling Green freshman Michael Kelly’s 22-year-old sister Victoria has autism. Growing up, she needed special attention that was often hard to find. Realizing other families needed similar kinds of support, Kelly’s parents, John and Linda Kelly, gave Western a donation in 2002, founding the Kelly Autism Program. KAP helps provide people from age 7 to adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder the opportunities they need to reach their potential, KAP director Marty Bowman said. KAP has programs for its participants ranging from middle school to postsecondary school including higher education, vocational training and job support, according to kap.wku.edu. The organization also offers scholarships to students. Habitat for Humanity was SAE’s primary charity. But when Michael Kelly became an SAE brother last fall, the fraternity found a new philanthropy to support. Giovanni DeVita, Union junior and SAE vice president said the fraternity felt “this cause was a little bit closer to home.” With the combination of SAE’s Paddy Murphy and dodgeball weeks, they were able to raise \$3,000 for the KAP. “It’s kind of overwhelming,” Kelly said at the game, explaining that the fraternity has been persistent in raising money for the KAP. “It means a lot.”

SEE **DONATION**, PAGE 12

# Western shows quarterback depth in run game

**MIKE STUNSON**  
sports@chherald.com

Even with Western’s depth at the running back position, it showed it has even more depth for running at the quarterback position during Saturday’s scrimmage. Three Topper quarterbacks combined for 182 rushing yards on 34 attempts, including an 53-yard rushing touchdown by freshman

Marcus Vasquez. “It’s a nightmare for defenses when your quarterback can make something out of nothing and tucks it and runs,” head coach David Elson said. Senior quarterback Brandon Smith played with the first unit and had two rushing touchdowns of his own, to go with his 49 rushing yards and 121 passing yards. “You try to work in the weight

room to get stronger and faster and more explosive, and you just carry it out here,” Smith said. “Throughout spring practice, you get better at seeing holes and reading things.” Elson was pleased with Smith’s performance as he completed nine of his 16 passes. “He led us to a couple scores, made good decisions and made plays in critical situations,” he said. Redshirt freshman quarterback

Kawaun Jakes threw for 108 yards on 15-22 passing but was not able to get into much of a groove throwing until the second half. “My teammates picked me up — I was down (after the first half),” Jakes said. “I don’t think I had a completion in the first half, and I came out in the second half and tried to perform.” The defense had its moments to brag about on Saturday as well, posting six sacks, with sophomore

safety Mark Santoro also getting an interception. “Our defense did a good job getting off the field in red zone situations,” Elson said. “This definitely shows we are starting to get it.” Western is now in its last week of spring practice and Elson said it has improved but still has unfinished business.

SEE **DEPTH**, PAGE 12